

WE CLAIM:

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- 1 1. A catheter assembly, comprising:
2 an elongate catheter body defining a distal portion and a proximal
3 portion;
4 a control element defining a distal portion operably connected to
5 the distal portion of the catheter body and a proximal portion associated with,
6 and extending along, the exterior surface of the catheter body to an area
7 adjacent the proximal end of the catheter body; and
8 an apparatus, associated with the catheter body and the control
9 element, adapted to secure the control element in predetermined relation to the
10 catheter body.
- 1 2. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control
2 element comprises a pull wire.
- 1 3. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control
2 element defines a distal end, the catheter body defines a distal end, and the
3 distal end of the control element is associated with the distal end of the catheter
4 body.
- 1 4. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the apparatus
2 comprises a substantially tubular member which surrounds respective portions
3 of the elongate catheter body and the control element.
- 1 5. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:
2 a handle associated with the distal portion of the catheter body;
3 wherein the apparatus comprises a substantially tubular member
4 which surrounds respective portions of the handle and the control element.

1. 6. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the apparatus
2 comprises a first member which rides on the control element and a second
3 member which rides on the catheter body.

1 7. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 6, wherein at least one
2 of the first and second members includes a locking device adapted to prevent
3 movement relative to at least one of the control element and catheter body.

1 8. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 7, wherein the locking
2 device comprises a rotatable vice.

1 9. A catheter assembly as claimed in claim 1, wherein the apparatus
2 comprises a main body associated with one of the catheter body and the
3 control element and a normally biased locking mechanism associated with the
4 other of the catheter body and the control element.